

# U.S. Department of Justice Radiation Exposure Compensation Program

Grand Junction, Colorado

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# Purpose of the Act

- “...to establish a procedure to make partial restitution to the individuals...for the burdens they have borne for the Nation as a whole.”
- “The Congress apologizes on behalf of the Nation to the individuals...and their families for the hardships they have endured.”

**Radiation Exposure Compensation Act**  
**§§ 2(b) and (c)**



# Two Types of Claimants

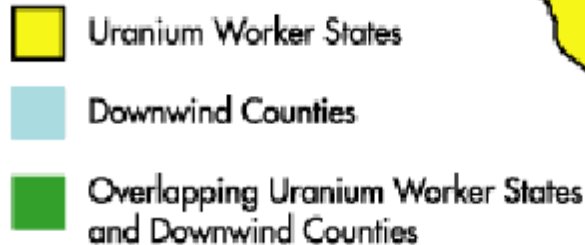
## Innocent Exposure

- Downwinders

## Occupational Exposure

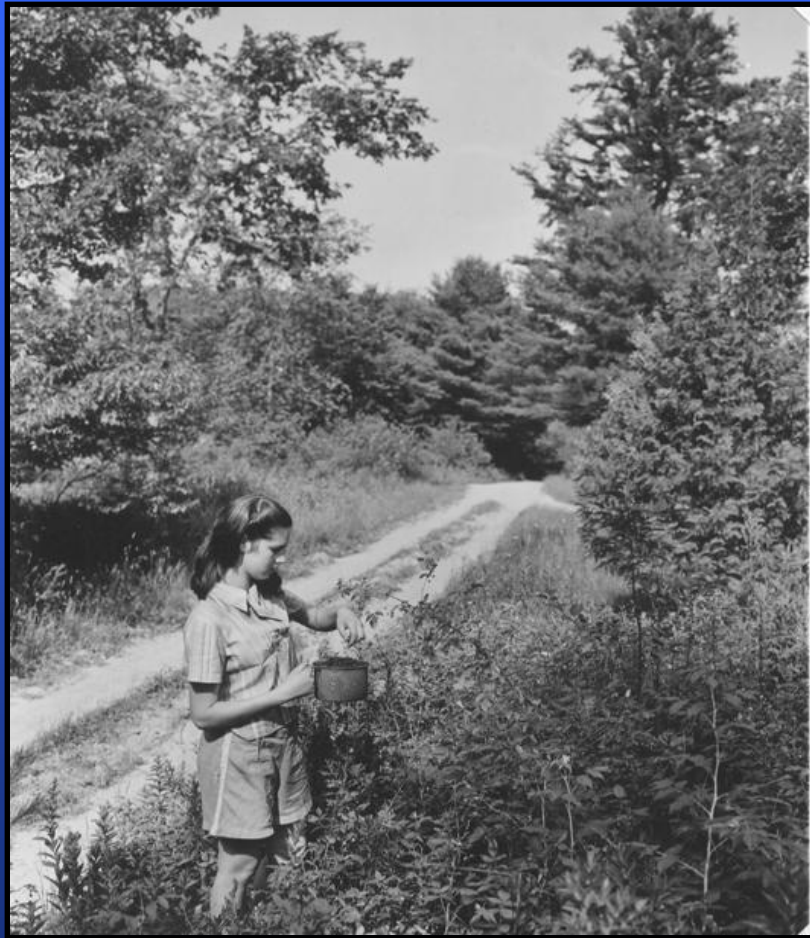
- Uranium Miners
- Uranium Millers
- Ore Transporters
- Onsite Participants

## COVERED AREAS





# DOWNWINDERS





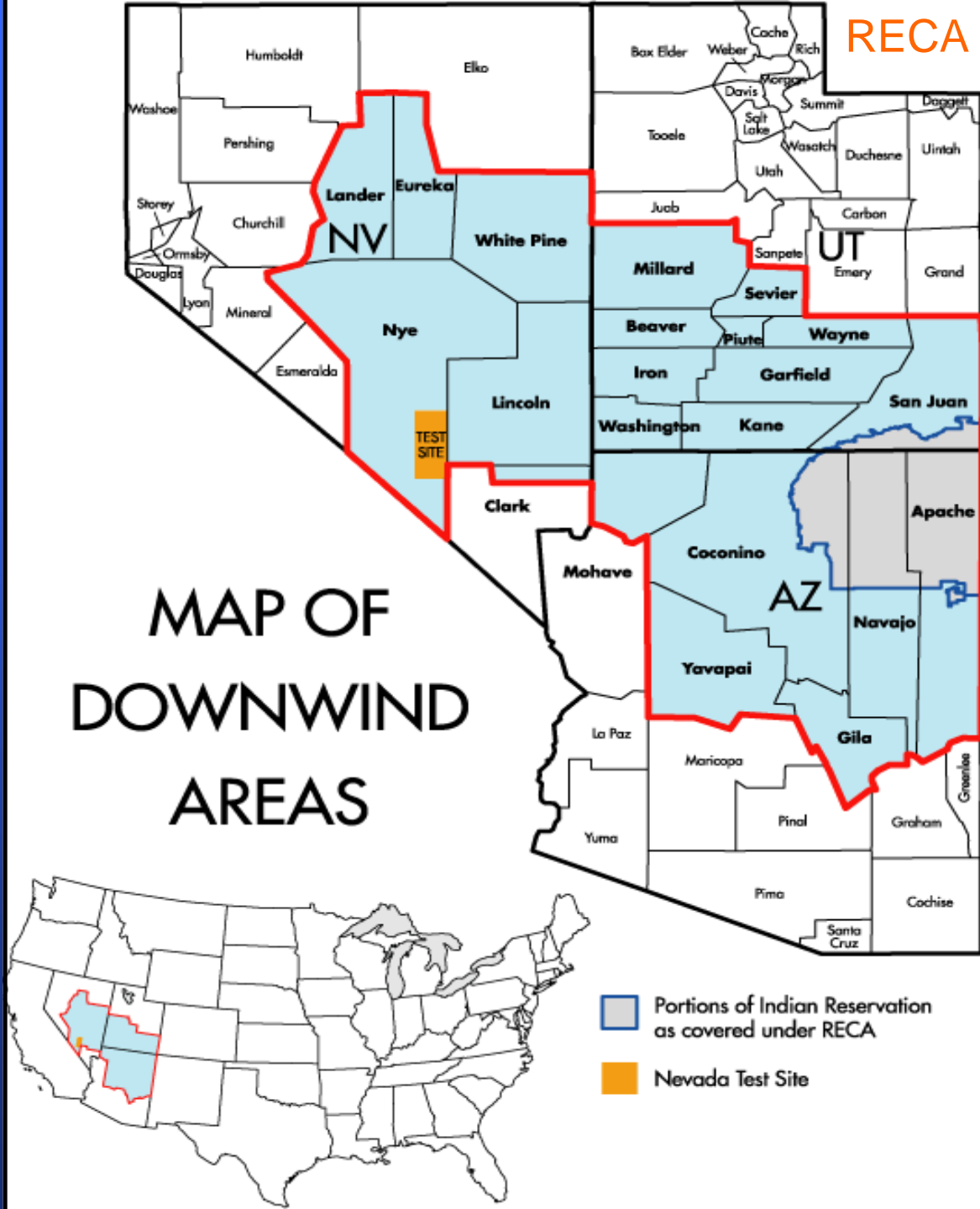
# Downwinders: Exposure Criteria

## Time Period:

Two years between  
January 21, 1951, and  
October 31, 1958

OR

The entire period from  
June 30, 1962, through  
July 31, 1962





# Downwinder Diseases

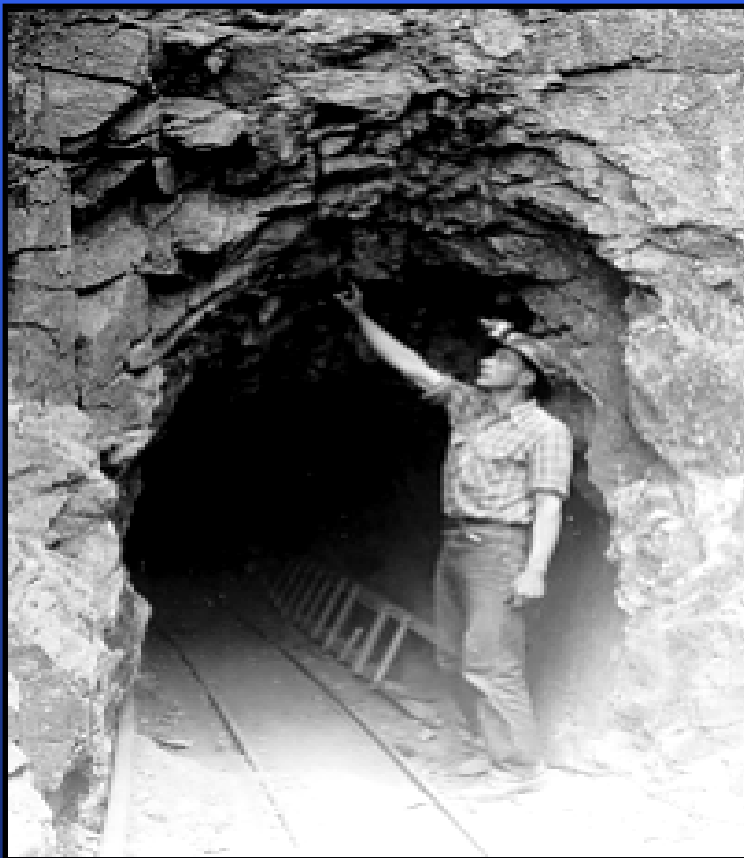
- Leukemia, other than chronic lymphocytic leukemia
- Multiple myeloma
- Lymphomas, other than Hodgkin's Disease
- Primary cancer of the:

Pharynx	Thyroid	Female breast
Small intestine	Pancreas	Ovary
Salivary gland	Lung	Esophagus
Male breast	Stomach	Brain
Urinary bladder	Bile ducts	Liver
Colon		Gall bladder



# URANIUM WORKERS

Miners



Millers and Ore Transporters







# Uranium Miners: Employment Criteria

**At any time between  
January 1, 1942 and  
December 31, 1971:**

Worked for at least 1 year in  
uranium mining activities

**OR**

Exposed to at least 40  
Working Level Months of  
radiation in course of  
uranium mining employment

RECA



MAP OF  
URANIUM WORKER  
STATES





# Uranium Miner Diseases

- Lung cancer
- Nonmalignant Respiratory Diseases
  - Pulmonary fibrosis
  - Fibrosis of the lung
  - Cor pulmonale, related to fibrosis of the lung
  - Silicosis
  - Pneumoconiosis



# Uranium Millers and Ore Transporters: Employment Criteria

**At any time between  
January 1, 1942 and  
December 31, 1971:**

Worked for at least 1  
year as a uranium miller  
or ore transporter

RECA



MAP OF  
URANIUM WORKER  
STATES





# Uranium Miller and Ore Transporter Diseases

- Lung cancer
- Renal cancer
- Chronic renal disease
  - including nephritis and kidney tubal tissue injury
- Nonmalignant Respiratory Diseases
  - Pulmonary fibrosis
  - Fibrosis of the lung
  - Cor pulmonale, related to fibrosis of the lung
  - Silicosis
  - Pneumoconiosis



# Four Corners States Uranium Workers

Total claims filed by  
residents of Utah,  
Colorado, Arizona &  
New Mexico: 21,667

15,582 claims have  
been approved

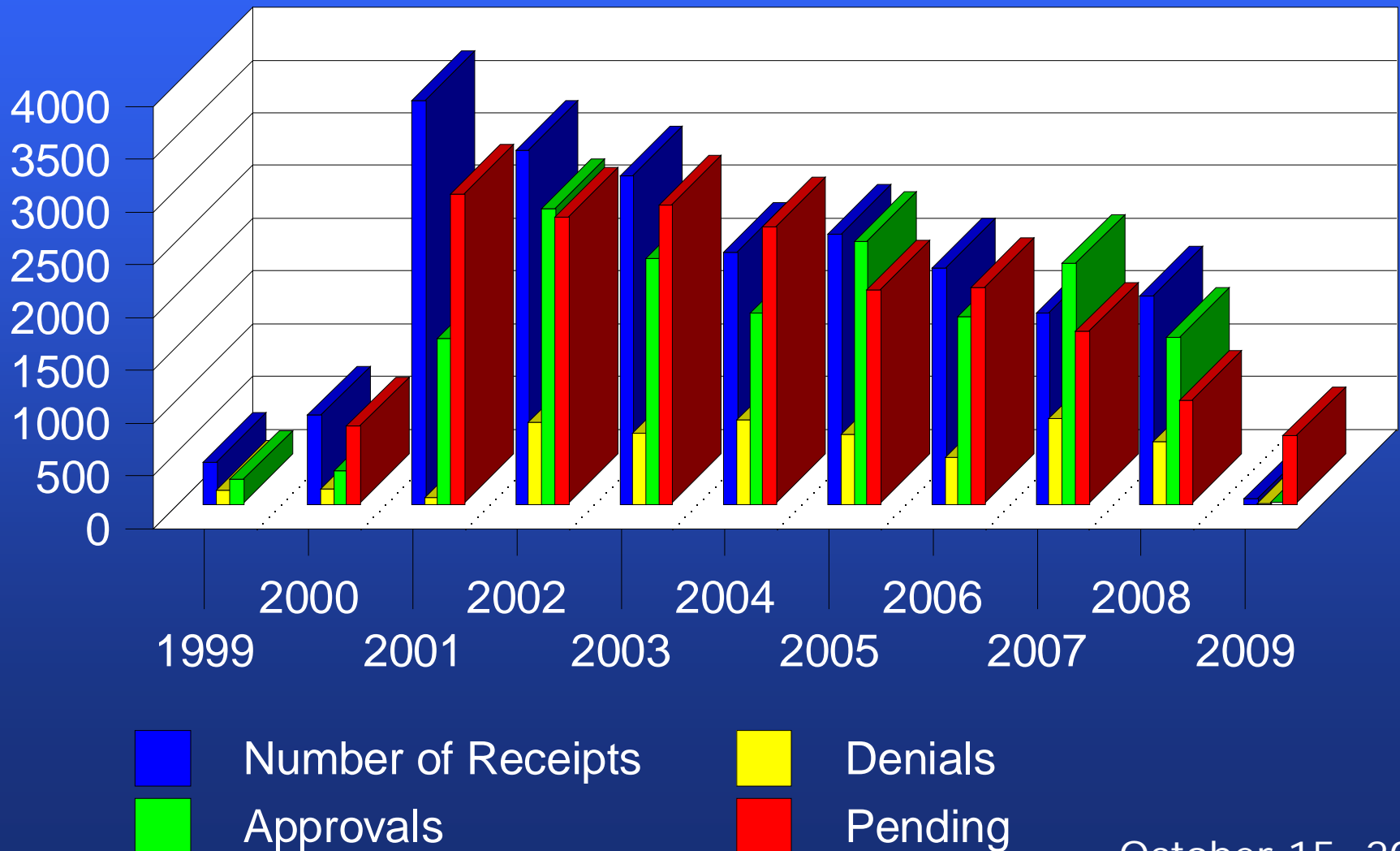


Total compensation paid to residents of four corners  
states: \$1,051,969,387



# RECA PROGRAM HISTORY

Radiation Exposure Compensation Program 1999 - 2009



October 15, 2008



# Claims to Date Summary

Claim Type	Claims Approved	Claims Denied	Claims Pending	Amount Approved
Uranium Miller (\$100,000)	1,174	305	42	\$117,400,000
Ore Transporter (\$100,000)	242	90	8	\$24,200,000
Uranium Miner (\$100,000)	4,929	2,935	156	\$492,174,560
Downwinder (\$50,000)	12,546	3,465	359	\$627,270,000
Onsite Participant (\$75,000)	1,242	1,499	75	\$88,699,836
Total	20,133	8,294	640	\$1,349,744,396

# Attorneys Fees and Costs




If you choose to be represented, the Act permits attorneys to charge up to 2% for the filing of an initial claim.



Attorneys who represent clients may now receive reimbursement for expenses and costs related to the claim, in addition to the 2% fee limit.





**800-729-7327**

**[www.usdoj.gov/civil](http://www.usdoj.gov/civil)**

**(type in Radiation Exposure Compensation Program)**